



City of Lakewood City Council

Council At Large
Sarah Kepple, President
Thomas R. Bullock III
Angelina Hamilton Steiner

Ward Council
Kyle Baker, Ward 1, Vice President
Bryan Evans, Ward 2
Cindy Strebis, Ward 3
Matthew Bixenstine, Ward 4

Docket of a Meeting of Lakewood City Council

Council Chambers

SEPTEMBER 21, 2026 at 7:30 PM

The Regular Meetings of Lakewood City Council shall be held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 P.M., except that when such meeting date falls on a holiday such meeting shall instead be held on the following day. A Docket and Agenda of the business proposed to be transacted by Council will be available in the Clerk's Office and on the [City's website](#) the Friday before a Council meeting.

Individuals with disabilities who require accommodations for participation in meetings must request accommodations at least three business days ahead of the scheduled meeting. Contact Michelle Nocht at (216) 529-5906 or michelle.nocht@lakewoodoh.gov.

Protocol for public comment can be found at the end of this docket. The public may view a livestream of the meeting by visiting our [Council Videos Page](#).

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Moment of Silence
- III. Roll Call
- IV. Reading and Disposal of the Minutes
 - i. Reading and disposal of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held September 8, 2026.
- V. Reports, legislation, and communications from Members of Council, the Mayor, and other City Officials.

Old Business

1. Finance Committee report regarding meeting held Sept. 14, 2026. (pg. 1)
2. Housing, Planning, & Development Committee meeting report regarding meeting held Sept. 21, 2026. (to be provided)
3. **ORDINANCE 40-2025** - AN ORDINANCE to take effect immediately provided it receives the vote of at least two thirds of the members of Council, or otherwise to take effect at the earliest period allowed by law, amending or repealing various sections of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances to update definitions and regulations related to bicycle infrastructure within the City of Lakewood. (1st read & referred to HPD & CASE 11/17/25; 2nd reading 12/01/25) (pg. 2)

New Business

4. Report from Vice President Baker regarding September meeting of the LakewoodAlive Board of Directors. (pg. 9)
5. Report from Councilmember Bullock regarding 2026 meetings of the Tree Advisory & Education Board. (pg. 11)
6. Communication from the Planning Department regarding Public Art Master Plan. (pg. 13)
7. **RESOLUTION 2026-40** - A RESOLUTION to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Council, or otherwise to take effect at the earliest period allowed by law, to adopt the Public Art Master Plan. (pg. 14)
8. Communication from Director Byington regarding Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Application. (pg. 16)
9. **RESOLUTION 2026-41** - A RESOLUTION to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five members of Council, or otherwise to take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law, authorizing the Mayor, Director of Planning and Development, to submit an application for the NatureWorks Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, to execute any and all agreements necessary to accept an award and to obligate funds required to complete the Becks Pool Renovation Project. (pg. 17)

Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol

The public is invited to comment on an agenda item or to make comments unrelated to the agenda during the designated public comment period at the end of the meeting. Rules of decorum are outlined in LCO 121.08.

Written Comments

Please submit written public comment through the City's [eComment platform](#). Written comments must be submitted in advance of the meeting. Written comments not related to topics on the agenda may be submitted under the Public Comment portion of the agenda (at the end).

Requests to Speak in Person

The public is invited to attend the meeting and make comments in-person. Please use the signup sheets available in the auditorium. Staff members will be available to help you sign in.

Announcements



**City of Lakewood
City Council**

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September 21, 2026

Lakewood City Council
Lakewood, Ohio

Re: Report from Finance Committee – September 8, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

Finance Committee convened on Monday, September 8, 2026 to review the 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the City of Lakewood. Finance Committee chose to review the finalized audit in a public meeting so that residents could have the opportunity to learn more about the results of the City's audit. The Committee has taken on this responsibility as part of the amendment to the City's code that transferred duties from the former citizen-led Audit Committee to Council's Finance Committee. The Committee was joined by Kyle Dougherty and Devin Barnard of audit firm Zupka & Associates, who spoke about the audit process and answered questions along with Director Mahoney. Committee members noted that the primary purpose of the annual audit is not to evaluate the overall financial health of the city, but rather to ensure the accuracy and compliance with multiple sets of accounting standards with which the City and its Finance Department have operated over the course of the year.

Director Mahoney was commended for her excellent leadership and for the hard work of the Finance Department in 2025, which is evidenced in the resulting clean audit. The Finance Committee acknowledges the importance of their ability to perform this review in an effort to facilitate continued transparency between the City and the residents of Lakewood, and thanks Director Mahoney and the Finance Department for their diligence and service.

Sincerely,

Kyle Baker
Lakewood City Council
Ward 1

ORDINANCE NO. 40-2025

BY:

AN ORDINANCE to take effect immediately provided it receives the vote of at least two thirds of the members of Council, or otherwise to take effect at the earliest period allowed by law, amending or repealing various sections of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances to update definitions and regulations related to bicycle infrastructure within the City of Lakewood.

WHEREAS, the City continues to advance and implement the bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure recommendations contained within the Active Transportation (AT) Plan and Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, to adequately regulate the safe use of this infrastructure updates to the codified ordinances are required; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution of the state of Ohio and the Ohio Revised Code, municipalities have the power to enact laws that are for the health, safety, welfare, comfort and peace of the citizens of the municipality; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in Section 2.12 of the Third Amended Charter of the City of Lakewood, this Council by a vote of at least two thirds of its members determines that this ordinance is an emergency measure and that it shall take effect immediately and that it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public property, health, and safety and to provide for the usual daily operation of municipal departments in that moving forward with the development of this property quickly is in the best interest of the public; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO:

Section 1. Section 301.04 Bicycle; Motorized Bicycle, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, currently reading as follows:

301.04 BICYCLE; MOTORIZED BICYCLE.

(a) "Bicycle" means every device, other than a device that is designed solely for use as a toy vehicle by a child, that is propelled solely by human power, upon which a person may ride, and that has two or more wheels, any of which is more than fourteen inches in diameter.

(b) "Motorized bicycle" or "moped" means any vehicle having either two tandem wheels or one wheel in the front and two wheels in the rear, that is capable of being pedaled and is equipped with a helper motor of not more than fifty cubic centimeters piston displacement which produces no more than one brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed of no greater than twenty miles per hour on a level surface.

(c) "Toy vehicle" means any device that has wheels and is designed for play, except that "toy vehicle" does not include bicycles or motorized bicycles. "Toy vehicle" includes devices having all wheels that are less than fourteen inches in diameter, except as those devices may be otherwise provided for in the Codified Ordinances.

is hereby repealed and new Section 301.04 Bicycle; Motorized Bicycle, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

301.04 BICYCLE; MOTORIZED BICYCLE.

(a) "Bicycle" means every device, other than a device that is designed solely for use as a toy vehicle by a child, that is propelled solely by human power, upon which a person may ride, and that has two or more wheels, any of which is more than fourteen inches in diameter.

(b) "Motorized bicycle" or "moped" means any vehicle that either has two tandem wheels or one wheel in the front and two wheels in the rear, that may be pedaled, and that is equipped with a helper motor of not more than fifty cubic centimeters piston displacement that produces no more than one brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the vehicle at a speed of no greater than twenty miles per hour on a level surface. "Motorized bicycle" or "moped" does not include an electric bicycle.

(c) "Toy vehicle" means any device that has wheels and is designed for play, except that "toy vehicle" does not include bicycles or motorized bicycles. "Toy vehicle" includes devices having all wheels that are less than fourteen inches in diameter, except as those devices may be otherwise provided for in the Codified Ordinances.

Section 2. Section 301.041 Bikeway, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

301.041 BIKEWAY

(a) "Bikeway" means any road, street, path, or way that in some manner is specifically designated for bicycle travel, regardless of whether the facility is designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or if it is shared with other modes of transportation.

Section 3. Section 301.362 Shared Use Path, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted as follows:

301.362 SHARED USE PATH.

(a) "Shared use path" means a bikeway outside the traveled way and physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent alignment. A shared use path also may be used by pedestrians, including skaters, joggers, users of manual and motorized wheelchairs, and other authorized motorized and non-motorized users. A shared use path does not include any trail that is intended to be used primarily for mountain biking, hiking, equestrian use, or other similar uses, or any other single track or natural surface trail that has historically been reserved for nonmotorized use.

Section 4. Section 373.08 Reckless Operation, Control, Course, and Speed, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, currently reading as follows:

373.08 RECKLESS OPERATION; CONTROL, COURSE AND SPEED.

(a) No person shall operate a bicycle or mobility device:

(1) Without due regard for the safety and rights of pedestrians and drivers and occupants of all other vehicles, and so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person while in the lawful use of the streets or sidewalks or any other public or private property;

(2) Without exercising reasonable and ordinary control over such bicycle or mobility device:

(3) In a weaving or zigzag course unless such irregular course is necessary for safe operation in compliance with law;

(4) Without both hands upon the handle grips except when necessary to give the required hand and arm signals, or as provided in Section 373.02(d);

(5) At a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(b) No person operating an e-scooter shall exceed a speed at greater than twelve miles per hour.

(c) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each

subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

is hereby repealed and new Section 373.08 Reckless Operation, Control, Course, and Speed, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

373.08 RECKLESS OPERATION; CONTROL, COURSE AND SPEED.

(a) No person shall operate a bicycle or mobility device:

(1) Without due regard for the safety and rights of pedestrians and drivers and occupants of all other vehicles, and so as to endanger the life, limb or property of any person while in the lawful use of the streets or sidewalks or any other public or private property;

(2) Without exercising reasonable and ordinary control over such bicycle or mobility device:

(3) In a weaving or zigzag course unless such irregular course is necessary for safe operation in compliance with law;

(4) Without both hands upon the handle grips except when necessary to give the required hand and arm signals, or as provided in Section 373.02(d);

(5) At a speed greater than is reasonable and prudent under the conditions then existing.

(b) Whoever violates this section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor on a first offense; on a second offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the fourth degree; on each subsequent offense within one year after the first offense, the person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree.

Section 5. Section 373.10 Riding on Sidewalk, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, currently reading as follows:

373.10 RIDING ON SIDEWALK.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) below, it shall be legal to operate a bicycle (per Section 301.04) upon a sidewalk when sidewalks are available and not congested with pedestrian traffic. If the sidewalk is congested with pedestrian traffic, any bicycle operator using the sidewalk shall walk the bicycle. At no time shall a bicyclist under the age of eight years operate a bicycle on Berea Road; Detroit Avenue; Madison Avenue; Warren Road between Franklin Boulevard and Detroit Avenue; or West 117 Street, unless while under the supervision of an adult.

(b) No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk, upon or along which signs have been erected by authority of the Director of Public Safety prohibiting such bicycle riding; or if the bicycle is wider than the customary widths of two-wheeled bicycles. No person shall operate a mobility device on sidewalks, except when necessary to go on or off adjacent properties or to park.

(c) A person propelling a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian. This audible signal may be given by the voice or by a bell or other warning device capable of giving an audible signal and shall be given at such a distance and in such a manner as not to startle person or persons being overtaken and passed.

(d) A person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk, before overtaking and passing a blind person carrying a white cane or guided by a dog, shall dismount and overtake or pass on foot, if necessary for safety.

(e) A person shall not operate a bicycle from a sidewalk so as to suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and move into the path of a vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(f) No person shall operate a bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed greater than an ordinary walk when approaching or entering a crosswalk or approaching or crossing a driveway if a vehicle is approaching the crosswalk or driveway. This paragraph does not require reduced speeds for bicycles when other vehicles are not present.

is hereby repealed and new Section 373.08 Reckless Operation, Control, Course, and Speed, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

373.10 RIDING ON SIDEWALK.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) below, it shall be legal to operate a bicycle (per Section 301.04) upon a sidewalk when sidewalks are available and not congested with pedestrian traffic. If the sidewalk is congested with pedestrian traffic, any bicycle operator using the sidewalk shall walk the bicycle. At no time shall a bicyclist under the age of ten operate a bicycle on any roadway (curb-to-curb), including bikeways, unless while under the supervision of an adult.

(b) No person shall ride a bicycle upon a sidewalk, upon or along which signs have been erected by authority of the Director of Public Safety prohibiting such bicycle riding; or if the bicycle is wider than the customary widths of two-wheeled bicycles. No person shall operate a motorized bicycle or mobility device on sidewalks, except when necessary to go on or off adjacent properties or to park.

(c) A person propelling a bicycle upon and along a sidewalk, or across a roadway upon and along a crosswalk, shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing such pedestrian. This audible signal may be given by the voice or by a bell or other warning device capable of giving an audible signal and shall be given at such a distance and in such a manner as not to startle person or persons being overtaken and passed.

(d) A person operating a bicycle upon a sidewalk, before overtaking and passing a blind person carrying a white cane or guided by a dog, shall dismount and overtake or pass on foot, if necessary for safety.

(e) A person shall not operate a bicycle from a sidewalk so as to suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and move into the path of a vehicle that is so close as to constitute an immediate hazard.

(f) No person shall operate a bicycle on a sidewalk at a speed greater than an ordinary walk when approaching or entering a crosswalk or approaching or crossing a driveway if a vehicle is approaching the crosswalk or driveway. This paragraph does not require reduced speeds for bicycles when other vehicles are not present.

Section 6. Section 373.101 Riding on Bikeways and Shared Use Paths, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted as follows:

373.101 RIDING ON BIKEWAYS AND SHARED USE PATHS.

(a) It shall be legal to operate a bicycle (per Section 301.04) upon a bikeway or shared use path with due regard for the safety and rights of pedestrians and other users.

(b) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle on a bikeway or shared use path, except when necessary to go on or off adjacent properties or to park.

(c) No adult (age 18 and over) shall operate a mobility device on a bikeway or shared use path, except when necessary to go on or off adjacent properties or to park.

(d) Any person operating a bicycle upon and along a bikeway or shared use path, shall ride on or as near to the right side of the bikeway or path as practicable and shall give audible signal before overtaking and passing any pedestrians or other users. This audible signal may be given by the voice or by a bell or other warning device capable of giving an audible signal and shall be given at such a distance and in such a manner as not to startle person or persons being overtaken and passed.

(e) Any person operating a bicycle upon and along a bikeway or shared use path, shall ride with due regard for the safety and rights of others when approaching or entering a crosswalk or approaching or crossing a driveway if a vehicle is approaching the crosswalk or driveway.

Section 7. Section 373.14 Motorized Bicycle Operation, Equipment, and License, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, currently reading as follows:

373.14 MOTORIZED BICYCLE OPERATION, EQUIPMENT AND LICENSE.

(a) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle, as defined in Section 301.04, upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, unless all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The person is fourteen or fifteen years of age and holds a valid probationary motorized bicycle license, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4507.01, issued after the person has passed the test provided by the Ohio Director of Public Safety pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4511.521, or the person is sixteen years of age or older and holds either a valid commercial driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4506 or a driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4507 or a valid motorized bicycle license issued after the person has passed such test, except that if a person is sixteen years of age, has a valid probationary motorized bicycle license and desires a motorized bicycle license, he or she is not required to comply with the testing requirements provided for in this section.

(2) The motorized bicycle is equipped in accordance with the rules adopted and promulgated by the Ohio Director of Public Safety pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4511.521(B) and is in proper working order.

(3) The person, if he or she is under eighteen years of age, is wearing a protective helmet on his or her head with the chin strap properly fastened and the motorized bicycle is equipped with a rear-view mirror.

(4) The person operates the motorized bicycle in obedience with all traffic rules applicable to vehicles.

(b) No person operating a motorized bicycle shall carry another person upon the motorized bicycle.

(c) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle upon any public sidewalk, lane or walkway intended for pedestrian travel.

(d) The protective helmet and rear-view mirror required by subsection (a)(3) hereof shall, on and after the effective date of this legislation, conform with rules adopted by the Ohio Director of Public Safety under Ohio R.C. 4511.521(B).

(e) No person shall operate or be a passenger on a snowmobile, motorcycle or motorized bicycle without using safety glasses or other protective eye device. No person who is under the age of eighteen years, or who holds a motorcycle operator's endorsement or license bearing a "novice" designation that is currently in effect as provided in Ohio R.C. 4507.13, shall operate a motorcycle or motorized bicycle on a highway or be a passenger on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle, unless wearing a protective helmet on his head, and no other person shall be a passenger on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle operated by such a person unless similarly wearing a protective helmet. The helmet, safety glasses or other protective eye device shall conform with regulations prescribed and promulgated by the Ohio Director of Public Safety. The provisions of this subsection or a violation thereof shall not be used in the trial of any civil action.

is hereby repealed and new Section 373.08 Reckless Operation, Control, Course, and Speed, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

373.14 MOTORIZED BICYCLE OPERATION, EQUIPMENT AND LICENSE.

(a) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle, as defined in Section 301.04, upon a highway or any public or private property used by the public for purposes of vehicular travel or parking, unless all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The person is fourteen or fifteen years of age and holds a valid probationary motorized bicycle license, as defined in Ohio R.C. 4507.01, issued after the person has passed the test provided by the Ohio Director of Public Safety pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4511.521, or the person is sixteen years of age or older and holds either a valid commercial driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4506 or a driver's license issued under Ohio R.C. Chapter 4507 or a valid motorized bicycle license issued after the person has passed such test, except that if a person is sixteen years of age, has a valid probationary motorized bicycle license and desires a motorized bicycle license, he or she is not required to comply with the testing requirements provided for in this section.

(2) The motorized bicycle is equipped in accordance with the rules adopted and promulgated by the Ohio Director of Public Safety pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4511.521(B) and is in proper working order.

(3) The person, if he or she is under eighteen years of age, is wearing a protective helmet on his or her head with the chin strap properly fastened and the motorized bicycle is equipped with a rear-view mirror.

(4) The person operates the motorized bicycle in obedience with all traffic rules applicable to vehicles.

(b) No person operating a motorized bicycle shall carry another person upon the motorized bicycle.

(c) No person shall operate a motorized bicycle upon any public bikeway or shared use path as well as sidewalk, lane or walkway intended for pedestrian travel.

(d) The protective helmet and rear-view mirror required by subsection (a)(3) hereof shall, on and after the effective date of this legislation, conform with rules adopted by the Ohio Director of Public Safety under Ohio R.C. 4511.521(B).

(e) No person shall operate or be a passenger on a snowmobile, motorcycle or motorized bicycle without using safety glasses or other protective eye device. No person who is under the age of eighteen years, or who holds a motorcycle operator's endorsement or license bearing a "novice" designation that is currently in effect as provided in Ohio R.C. 4507.13, shall operate a motorcycle or motorized bicycle on a highway or be a passenger on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle, unless wearing a protective helmet on his head, and no other person shall be a passenger on a motorcycle or motorized bicycle operated by such a person unless similarly wearing a protective helmet. The helmet, safety glasses or other protective eye device shall conform with regulations prescribed and promulgated by the Ohio Director of Public Safety. The provisions of this subsection or a violation thereof shall not be used in the trial of any civil action.

Section 8. Section 903.10 Duty to Repair and Maintain Sidewalks, Tree Lawns and Driveway Aprons, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, currently reading as follows:

903.10 DUTY TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN SIDEWALKS, TREE LAWNS AND DRIVEWAY APRONS.

(a) For the purpose of this section, "sidewalk" means that portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians, including the area commonly referred to as the "tree lawn."

(b) As used in this section, "driveway apron" means that area of the driveway from the curb to the sidewalk.

(c) The property owner whose property abuts any sidewalk shall be primarily responsible for the repair and maintenance of such sidewalk, driveway apron and tree lawn area.

(1) Any hole or defect that is a tripping hazard or that is capable of causing injury, inconvenience, annoyance or damage to sidewalk users shall be repaired by the abutting property owner within a reasonable period of time from the time at which the property owner should have known of the necessity of such repair through the exercise of due diligence, or within such time as may be determined as reasonable by the Director of Public Works at the time the repair work is determined to be necessary.

(2) The failure of a property owner to reasonably repair such defect in accordance with the applicable time frame shall be considered a negligent act as a matter of law, and the property owner shall be liable for any injury resulting from such defect.

(d) The Director of Public Works, upon determining that the condition of any sidewalk, driveway apron or tree lawn constitutes a public hazard, may order the abutting property owner to repair any sidewalk, driveway apron, or tree lawn which the City finds to be a nuisance or in an unsafe condition.

(1) The Director of Public Works shall serve a written notice of his or her determination in the manner provided by law for service in a civil action, setting forth sufficient information indicating which sidewalks, driveway aprons, or tree lawns are to be repaired, the estimated cost of those repairs and a time frame in which such work is to be completed, which shall be not less than 30 days from the date of the issuance of the order and citation, unless a longer period is determined to be appropriate by the Director of Public Works.

(2) If a property owner fails to repair a sidewalk or tree lawn as required by such order, the Director of Public Works may perform the work determined necessary and assess the cost of such work to the abutting land owner.

is hereby repealed and new Section 903.10 Duty to Repair and Maintain Sidewalks, Tree Lawns and Driveway Aprons, of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

903.10 DUTY TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN SIDEWALKS, TREE LAWNS AND DRIVEWAY APRONS.

(a) For the purpose of this section, "sidewalk" means that portion of a street between the curb lines, or the lateral lines of a roadway, and the adjacent property lines, intended for the use of pedestrians, including the area commonly referred to as the "tree lawn."

(1) Additionally, for the purposes of this section, "sidewalk" expressly shall not mean or include a municipally designated shared use path or bikeway located within the City.

(b) As used in this section, "driveway apron" means that area of the driveway from the curb to the sidewalk.

(c) The property owner whose property abuts any sidewalk shall be primarily responsible for the repair and maintenance of such sidewalk, driveway apron and tree lawn area.

(1) Any hole or defect that is a tripping hazard or that is capable of causing injury, inconvenience, annoyance or damage to sidewalk users shall be repaired by the abutting property owner within a reasonable period of time from the time at which the property owner should have known of the necessity of such repair through the exercise of due diligence, or within such time as may be determined as reasonable by the Director of Public Works at the time the repair work is determined to be necessary.

(2) The failure of a property owner to reasonably repair such defect in accordance with the applicable time frame shall be considered a negligent act as a matter of law, and the property owner shall be liable for any injury resulting from such defect.

(3) The City of Lakewood and not the owner of the abutting property shall be responsible for the repair and maintenance of any municipally designated shared use path.

(d) The Director of Public Works, upon determining that the condition of any sidewalk, driveway apron or tree lawn constitutes a public hazard, may order the abutting property owner to repair any sidewalk, driveway apron, or tree lawn which the City finds to be a nuisance or in an unsafe condition.

(1) The Director of Public Works shall serve a written notice of his or her determination in the manner provided by law for service in a civil action, setting forth sufficient information indicating which sidewalks, driveway aprons, or tree lawns are to be repaired, the estimated cost of those repairs and a time frame in which such work is to be completed, which shall be not less than 30 days from the date of the issuance of the order and citation, unless a longer period is determined to be appropriate by the Director of Public Works.

(2) If a property owner fails to repair a sidewalk or tree lawn as required by such order, the Director of Public Works may perform the work determined necessary and assess the cost of such work to the abutting land owner.

Section 9. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this ordinance were passed in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such actions were in meetings open to the public and in compliance with legal requirements.

Section 10. This ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of public peace, property, health, safety and welfare in the City and for the usual daily operation of the City for the reasons set forth and defined in the preamble to this ordinance, and provided it receives this affirmative vote of at least two thirds of the members of Council, this ordinance shall take effect and be in force immediately following its adoption by the Council and approval by the Mayor, or otherwise it shall take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted _____

Sarah Kepple, President of Council

Maureen M. Bach, Clerk of Council

Approved _____

Meghan F. George, Mayor



City of Lakewood City Council

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September 21, 2026

Lakewood City Council
Lakewood, Ohio

Re: Report from LakewoodAlive Board of Directors Meeting – September 16, 2026

Dear Colleagues,

The LakewoodAlive Board of Directors met on September 16, 2026, at the Lakewood Public Library for its bi-monthly meeting. The Board reviewed the organization's Fiscal Year 2027 budget, closed out discussion of the 2026 fiscal year, and received updates from its committees. Executive Director Jo Higgins reported that the organization is in the second round of interviews for a new Housing Outreach Coordinator. The position will place a greater emphasis on field-based housing work and data coordination, while continuing the collaborative roles of existing housing staff. The Board also approved amendments to its Bylaws and Code of Conduct. The proposed bylaw changes were mostly perfunctory and administrative.

The Housing Committee continues to evaluate ways LakewoodAlive can respond to practical housing needs in the community. Among the areas under consideration are developing a structured volunteer program to assist residents with limited-scope home projects, such as building beds or installing grab bars, while ensuring appropriate screening, liability, and safety measures. The committee is also examining barriers facing residents who may want or need to transition to different housing arrangements but lack the resources to do so.

The Small Business Committee has continued its efforts to provide direct assistance to Lakewood entrepreneurs and existing businesses. LakewoodAlive has connected 12 businesses or entrepreneurs with partner organizations and services since late July. The committee is also developing a new resource guide to help people understand the steps involved in starting a business in Lakewood, including who to contact and what resources are available.

The Community Placemaking and Design Committee continues to work closely with the City on several initiatives. The committee is exploring a potential newsletter or project spotlight series highlighting local projects that have utilized historic tax credits, including projects within the Madison Avenue Historic District. The committee also plans to re-engage with the City this winter regarding 2027 walking audits and potential implementation projects. Additional discussions are underway regarding public art, Architectural Review Board agenda review, and potential pro bono design assistance for small businesses navigating architectural and sign applications.

The Marketing Committee is working to create a more consistent approach connecting LakewoodAlive's programs, events, volunteers, digital outreach, and fundraising. Priorities include improving social media and video content, refreshing website content and search-engine optimization, and better measuring how digital outreach translates into event participation, volunteerism, and donations. The committee will also support the planning and promotion of Loving Lakewood, scheduled for February 27, 2027.

LakewoodAlive also continues to prepare for several upcoming community events. Volunteers are currently being sought for the Spooky Pooch Parade on October 10 and the City-Wide Day of Service on November 7. This year's Day of Service is being approached as a broader community-wide opportunity, encouraging residents to participate in whatever way is meaningful to them, rather than limiting participation to an organizational event. Other upcoming events include the Chocolate Walk on October 22 and Light Up Lakewood on December 5.

I appreciate the continued partnership between LakewoodAlive, the City, and our broader community. I look forward to continuing to work with the organization and my Council colleagues on initiatives that support Lakewood's residents, housing needs, small businesses, neighborhoods, and quality of life.

Sincerely,



Kyle Baker

Vice President of Council | Ward 1

Ex-officio member, LakewoodAlive Board of Directors



City of Lakewood City Council

Council At Large
Sarah Kepple, President
Thomas R. Bullock III
Angelina Hamilton Steiner

Ward Council
Kyle Baker, Ward 1, Vice President
Bryan Evans, Ward 2
Cindy Strebis, Ward 3
Matthew Bixenstine, Ward 4

September 21, 2026

Lakewood City Council
Lakewood, Ohio

Re: Report work of the Tree Advisory and Education Board

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

I write to report on the good work of the Tree Advisory and Education Board, which has been diligently working in partnership with the City throughout the year on important urban forestry educational activities. This communication summarizes the work and topics discussed in the agendas from January through September 2026. It is intended for the Lakewood City Council to provide a clear record of the activities, plans underway, and upcoming work and events related to urban forestry and community tree initiatives.

Overview of Work Completed:

- **Organizational Updates and Membership:** Welcomed new members including Katie Kelleher and Marco Oriella. Confirmed City Council liaison Tom Bullock and addressed vacant seats and secretary roles.
- **Annual Updates for City Council:** Presented and aligned on key messages and content for annual updates in February and January meetings.
- **Tree Giveaways:** Conducted spring 2026 tree giveaway with detailed planning on species selection, logistics, PR, and resident experience. Began planning for fall 2026 giveaway scheduled for October 3 at Bernice Pyke Park, including species proposals, watering reminders, and promotional efforts.
- **Arboretum Certification:** Pursued Level 1 Arboretum certification in partnership with the Cove Community Center. Discussed plant labeling, educational events, and application progress.
- **Community Events and Outreach:** Participated in and planned for the Lakewood Community Festival on September 12, sharing a booth with Friends of Madison Park and framing key messages and activities.
- **City Forestry Operations:** Received regular updates on City forestry operations, public tree status, and plans. Identified requests and discussed ongoing forestry management.
- **Volunteer Tree Stewards Program:** Explored scope, milestones, and budget for establishing a volunteer tree steward group in Lakewood, learning from neighboring initiatives.
- **Web Presence and Content:** Reviewed and recommended improvements for tree-related web content on the City of Lakewood website, including Streets and Forestry and Tree Board pages.
- **Model Tree Ordinance:** Engaged with Cuyahoga County Board of Health on the Model Tree Ordinance, including presentations and discussions to understand its intent and structure.

Overview of Plans Underway:

- Finalizing fall 2026 Tree Giveaway and reservation portal launch, to be held on Oct. 3.
- Preparing for participation in the 2026 Cuyahoga County Tree Summit on September 25.
- Continuing development of the Tree Stewards volunteer program.
- Updating and enhancing tree-related web content to better support residents.
- Reviewing and planning for potential adoption or alignment with the Model Tree Ordinance.

Summary of Upcoming Work and Events:

- **Cuyahoga County Tree Summit:** September 25, 2026.
- **Fall Tree Giveaway:** Scheduled for October 3, 2026, at Bernice Pyke Park.
- **Further Tree Steward Program Development:** 2026-2027 milestones and budget planning.
- **Ongoing Forestry Operations and Community Engagement:** Continued monitoring and management of public trees and community outreach.

This summary provides a high-level overview to keep Lakewood City Council and the public informed of the important urban forestry work being conducted by the Tree Advisory & Education Board and its partners throughout 2026. Please feel free to reach out for any further details or clarifications.

A key initiative of note: the Board intends to frame for consideration a proposed ordinance to address tree practices on the private side of the property line. This is being researched in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Department of Health, which has attended two meetings to date and is sharing research and alternative model ordinances for consideration. I have pledged to introduce on behalf of the Board whatever legislation they recommend as a starting point for consideration by the full council.

I would also like to remark that this is a very active, informed, committed, energetic, creative and collegial Board. That includes work between Board members with one another and between the Board and the Administration. We are well served by this group, and it's been my pleasure to represent City Council as your appointee.

Sincerely,



Tom Bullock
Councilmember At-Large



City of Lakewood
Department of Planning
and Development

Angela Byington, Director
David Baas, AICP, Asst. Director

(216) 529-6630
planning@lakewoodoh.gov

September 3, 2026

City Council
City of Lakewood
12650 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
RE: Public Art Master Plan

Dear Council President Kepple & Members of City Council:

The City of Lakewood was selected as the recipient of a Community Planning Services Program grant from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission (CCPC) in March 2025. Since that time, staff from Planning, Public Works, and City Council have worked with the CCPC, in conjunction with multiple community stakeholders to develop a Public Art Master Plan for the entire City of Lakewood. Careful research and documentation of area conditions and demographics coupled with recently adopted City plans, robust public engagement and stakeholder involvement have produced a Public Art Master Plan document to: guide continued investment; engagement; allow the City to prioritize location and type of any new art; provide a framework for future public art and placemaking projects based on best practices and how they help achieve the Community Vision; and provide a document to be used for reference when applying for outside funding.

The Master Planning document gives the why for recommendations as well as the how. The recommendations are well-rooted in public preference. The document includes appendices which contain over 800 unique responses from the public. Teachers, students, arts organizations, local businesses, and nonprofits were engaged and surveyed, as well as attendees at the Lakewood Arts Festival last summer.

The plan provides a list of resources for grant funding, case studies, vendor lists, as well as a timeline with budget projections. The goal is to create a strategic framework that capitalizes on our existing inventory and allows for diverse and innovative future installations. The Master Plan considers public art in the following categories: mural, asphalt, sculpture, interactive, illuminated or projected, functional or infrastructural, and temporary and performance.

The Public Art Master Plan document has been received and filed by the Public Art Advisory Board and Planning Commission. It is recommended for adoption following both committee review, as determined by City Council. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angela Byington
Director of Planning & Development

Amanda Cramer, AICP
Senior Planner, Planning & Development

A RESOLUTION to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of Council, or otherwise to take effect at the earliest period allowed by law, to adopt the Public Art Master Plan.

WHEREAS, the Community Vision is the City's long-range vision for the community, upon which future policy decisions are predicated, and outlines broad goals, policies, and programs to strengthen the environmental, social and economic well-being of the community; and

WHEREAS, among other items, the Community Vision includes the following goals that support the furthered implementation of high-quality public art to support quality of life:

- Robust social cohesion for all;
- A culture of lifelong learning, preservation of our cultural institutions and assets;
- It includes deep civic engagement and participation, particularly among under-represented communities, and increased participation in civic and cultural events;
- Provides public spaces that are open and inviting with access for all;
- Provide lifelong educational opportunities for our residents and promote a community identity rooted in our cultural heritage

WHEREAS, recognizing the growing need for continued investment into Public Art, in February 2025, the City's Planning Department applied for and received a community planning grant from the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood was one of 10 applicants, only four were selected to receive planning services, including the Public Art Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Public Art Master Plan is to guide continued investment, diversify the City's portfolio, provide a framework for future public art and placemaking projects based on best practices and how they help achieve the Community Vision; and

WHEREAS, the Public Art Master Plan is aligned with previous City plans and studies and is directed by robust community engagement that included thousands of public input interactions throughout the planning process to incorporate current trends in public art master planning that view art as a necessity, remedies for climate change and public safety issues, economic drivers, places for health and wellness that exemplify accessibility and equity, and innovative and seasonal programming; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to adopt the Public Art Master Plan as a guiding document for future decisions related to continued investment into creation, maintenance, diversifying, and further enhancement of the City's public art amenities; and

WHEREAS, as set forth in Section 2.12 of the Third Amended Charter of the City of Lakewood, this Council by a vote of at least two thirds of its members determines that this

ordinance is an emergency measure and that it shall take effect immediately, and that it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public property, health, and safety and to provide for the usual daily operation of municipal departments, in that this property is currently vacant and should be renovated and occupied; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO:

Section 1. The Public Art Master Plan as generally attached is hereby adopted.

Section 2. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all such deliberation of the Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 3. This resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, safety and welfare in the City and for the usual daily operation of the City for the reasons set forth and defined in the preamble to this resolution, and provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five (5) members of Council, this resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption by the Council and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted: _____

Sarah Kepple, Council President

Maureen M. Bach, Clerk of Council

Approved: _____

Meghan F. George, Mayor



City of Lakewood
Department of Planning
and Development

Angela Byington, Director
David Baas, AICP, Asst. Director

(216) 529-6630
planning@lakewoodoh.gov

September 17, 2026

Lakewood City Council
12650 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

RE: Council Docket Item – Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Application

Dear President Kepple and Members of Council:

The City of Lakewood is requesting permission to apply for funds through the Land And Water Conservation Fund program offered by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources for the reconstruction of Becks Pool at Madison Park. The State of Ohio, through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes, through the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Program.

The application will request \$500,000 for the replacement of the existing Becks swimming pool, which is anticipated to cost \$5-6 million dollars. The Becks pool has not been significantly upgraded since it was installed in 1957 and is in urgent need of complete replacement. The Madison Park Master Plan supports the expenditure for this important city park and recommends that the redevelopment of the pool include innovative and fun elements that are designed to serve the immediate community while elevating Madison Park as a regional attraction. The data shows that the residents near Madison Park are some of the least likely to have a car in the city, and the neighborhood is known for its small yards, making this park and this swimming pool of vital importance to the neighborhood, as well as the city. SIXMO is the contractor that has been engaged in the design and construction oversight of this project, who is the same firm that lead the redesign of Foster Pool. The iterative concept design process has been underway all summer to create a conceptual layout. The timeline will have construction beginning after the 2027 swim season. We respectfully ask that Council consider adopting this resolution on first reading. The executed resolution must be submitted by October 30, 2026.

Sincerely,

Angela Byington
Director of Planning and Development

A RESOLUTION to take effect immediately provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five members of Council, or otherwise to take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law, authorizing the Mayor, Director of Planning and Development, to submit an application for the NatureWorks Grant through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, to execute any and all agreements necessary to accept an award and to obligate funds required to complete the Becks Pool Renovation Project.

WHEREAS, the State of Ohio through the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks Grant Program, administers financial assistance for public recreation purposes; and

WHEREAS, Lakewood desires financial assistance under the NatureWorks Grant Program for the Becks Pool Renovation Project; and

WHEREAS, this Council by a vote of at least five of its members determines that this resolution is an emergency measure, and that this resolution shall take effect at the earliest date possible as set forth in Article III, Sections 10 and 13 of the Second Amended Charter of the City of Lakewood, and that it is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public property, health and safety, and to provide for the usual daily operation of municipal departments in that this application is due no later than October 30, 2026; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, OHIO:

Section 1. That the Mayor or Director of Planning and Development is authorized to submit an application for financial assistance with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) NatureWorks Grant Program and to provide all information and documentation required to become eligible for potential funding assistance for the Becks Pool Renovation Project.

Section 2. That the Mayor or Director of Planning and Development is authorized to execute any agreements necessary for an award under the Ohio Department of Natural Resources NatureWorks Grant Program.

Section 3. That Lakewood hereby agrees to obligate the funds required to satisfactorily complete the proposed project and become eligible for reimbursement under the terms of the NatureWorks Grant Program.

Section 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all such deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements.

Section 5. This resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, safety and welfare in the City and for

the usual daily operation of the City for the reasons set forth and defined in the preamble to this resolution, and provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least five members of Council, this resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption by the Council and approval by the Mayor, or otherwise it shall take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law.

Adopted: _____

Sarah Kepple, President of Council

Maureen M. Bach, Clerk of Council

Approved: _____

Meghan F. George, Mayor

CERTIFICATE OF RECORDING OFFICER

I, the undersigned, hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of resolution adopted by Lakewood City Council held on the ____ of _____, 2025, and that I am a duly authorized to execute this certificate.

Maureen M. Bach, Clerk of Council

Date